

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) Device for cooling rolling stock within the cooling line of a rolling mill, especially a hot strip rolling mill, in which stationary water spray devices are installed below the rolling stock between rollers (10) of a roller table (1), and spray bars (3) held on support levers (16) are installed above the rolling stock, wherein the support levers (16) are supported by a tubular, rotationally driven and water-fed articulated tube (15) that extends parallel to the longitudinal axis of the roller table (1), with a central water feed pipe and an automatic control device with associated on-off valves for switching the cooling water on and off, wherein the rollers (10) of the roller table (1) are arranged with the closest possible spacing; wherein the lower cooling bars (2) are arranged below the spaces remaining between the rollers

(10); wherein spray tubes (13) of the cooling bars (2) fit into these spaces; and the rollers (10) of the roller table (1) have elongated pins (11) of small diameter so as to permit cooling water which cannot run off through the spacing between the rollers to run off over the small diameter pins, wherein the cooling bars (2) have a pear-shaped cross section, whose neck is directed towards the spaces remaining between the rollers (10) and is furnished with the spray tubes (13), wherein the neck of the pear-shaped cross section of the cooling bars (2) is terminated by a retaining strip (23), which is fitted with spray tubes (13) and advantageously is interchangeable, wherein the free end of each spray tube (13) is fitted with a nozzle (24).

2. (Canceled)
3. (Canceled)
4. (Canceled)

5. (Previously presented) System in accordance with Claim 1, comprising an articulated tube (15), which carries cooling water and is supported by stands (14) in such a way that it can swivel, and from which tubular support arms (16) originate, which convey cooling water and both support the upper spray bars (3) and supply cooling water to them.
6. (Previously presented) System in accordance with Claim 5, comprising at least one drive mechanism associated with the articulated tube (15).
7. (Previously presented) System in accordance with Claim 6, comprising a hydraulic cylinder (17) that acts on a lever connected with the articulated tube (15).
8. (Previously presented) System in accordance with Claim 1, comprising spray guard plates (5) that articulate in front of end faces of the spray bars (3).

9. (Previously presented) System in accordance with Claim 1, comprising guide straightedges (6), which can be advanced towards stops (19) representing the strip width to be processed and can be retracted to their wide-open home position at the start of the intensive compact cooling.
10. (Previously presented) System in accordance with Claim 1, wherein spray tube plates (4) that are provided with spray tubes (20) can be detachably or interchangeably mounted on the underside of the upper spray bars (3).
11. (Previously presented) System in accordance with Claim 10, wherein the front free ends of the mouth regions (21) of the spray tubes (20) are expanded like funnels, and the lower ends in the discharge regions (22) are constricted, if necessary, to the desired cross section.
12. (Previously presented) System in accordance with Claim 1, wherein the ends of the cooling line of the roller table

(1) are preferably equipped with systems (25, 26) for longitudinal spraying.

13. (Previously presented) System in accordance with Claim 12, wherein flaps (27, 28) that can be lowered are installed in front of the longitudinal spray systems.
14. (Previously presented) System in accordance with Claim 12, wherein the longitudinal spray systems (25, 26) are equipped with nozzle tubes (29, 30) that are acted upon by pressurized water and/or compressed air.
15. (Previously presented) System in accordance with Claim 14, wherein the tubes that carry the nozzles can be raised into an open position.
16. (Previously presented) System in accordance with Claim 7, wherein the hydraulic cylinder (17) acts on a section of a support lever.